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PATENT

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Examiner:

Ching-Leou Teng

Janet L. Epps-Ford

Serial No.: **09/315,298**

Group Art Unit: **1635**

Filed: **May 20, 1999**

Confirmation No. **6350**

For: **Compositions and Methods for Non-Parenteral Delivery of Oligonucleotides**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Express Mail No. EV146607611US
Date: June 9, 2003

RESPONSE

In response to the Office Action mailed May 28, 2003, in connection with the above-identified patent application, Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendments filed on February 27, 2003 subject to further clarification provided below and reconsideration based on the remarks of record.

In the Claims:

Please amend claim 1 according to the clean version below.

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1. (amended three times) A composition in dosage form suitable for non-parenteral administration comprising at least one antisense oligonucleotide in an emulsion and at least one penetration enhancer selected from the group consisting of surfactants, fatty acids, bile salts, chelating agents, non-chelating non-surfactant molecules, and combinations thereof;

wherein said non-chelating non-surfactant is selected from the group consisting of unsaturated cyclic ureas, 1-alkyl-alkanones, 1-alkenylazacyclo-alkanones, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agents, and combinations thereof;